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United States Department of State

Coordinator of Public Diplomacy for
Latin America and the Caribbean

Washington, D.C. 20520

February 24, 1986

MEMORANDUM

TO: A/OPR/STP/P - Ms. Barbara A. Garland, Acting Chief
FROM: S/LPD - John D. Blacken
SUBJECT: Proposed Contract with International Business
Communication, Inc. (IBC) - Requisition No.
1001-602066
REF: Your Memorandum of 2/6/86

This memorandum is to acknowledge that we instructed IBC to continue its services FY-86 after the expiration of their prior year contract. As you are aware, our prior Administrative Officer believed that the 1985 Contract contained a renewability clause, and proceeded on that basis erroneously.

Further, our core programs were totally dependent upon uninterrupted services contracted from IBC. The services rendered by IBC since 1984 represent fundamental input to the documents and speeches prepared as part of the core activity of S/LPD. Without continuity of operations, serious detrimental effects on S/LPD's mission would have occurred. Additionally, throughout this period S/LPD was dealing with administrative levels in the Department to insure continuity of the contract under established sole-source purchase procedures.

The services provided by the contract are such that publication of the general nature of the performance would be detrimental to ongoing programs under S/LPD. Further, release of the general nature of the contract could allow elements unfriendly to the United States to deduce sensitive interagency operations of S/LPD, the secrecy of which is fundamental to their success. Revelation of certain operations or allowing speculation could result in serious damage to our relations with several allies and other sovereign states. This is a precise definition of "SECRET" information.